

# Nancy Johnson



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Fifth District, Connecticut

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Fifth District Constituents to BIA: NO CASINO!** *Johnson Personally Delivers Survey Results to BIA*

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congresswoman Nancy Johnson personally delivered to the Bureau of Indian Affairs today more than 8,000 surveys from her constituents opposed to a new casino in Western Connecticut.

An overwhelming 94 percent said they oppose a casino in Western Connecticut, while only 6 percent said they favor a casino.

“The people of Western Connecticut have spoken loud and clear – NO CASINO!” Johnson said. “Ninety-four percent of those who responded to my survey say they oppose casino expansion in Western Connecticut. BIA now knows that the people of Western Connecticut will not tolerate the flawed and illogical decisions that are opening the door to a casino in our area.”

Johnson mailed the surveys to residents of Danbury and other communities in Western Connecticut earlier this year to get their opinion on whether a new casino should be built. Johnson personally delivered the results to the Office of the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs today.

The BIA’s decision in January to recognize the Schaghticoke Tribal Nation (STN) opens the door to a Foxwoods-style casino in Western Connecticut, possibly in Kent, Danbury, or Waterbury. The STN was recognized despite the fact that the BIA admits the group does not meet the crucial criteria for federal recognition.

With Johnson’s strong support, the state Attorney General has appealed the BIA’s decision with the Interior Department’s Interior Board of Indian Appeals. Interested parties and towns in Litchfield and Fairfield counties have joined the appeal.

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